

Damascus University



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Directorate for International and Cultural Relations

International Conference of Stipendium Hungaricum Programme Operational Partners
Budapest, 22-25 November 2017

Total number of applicants

2016

360

2017

1120

Awarded students

2016

252

2017

229

Awarded programs 2016- 2017

MSc (297)

Ph.D. (53)

**Ba
(23)**

**Op
(6)**

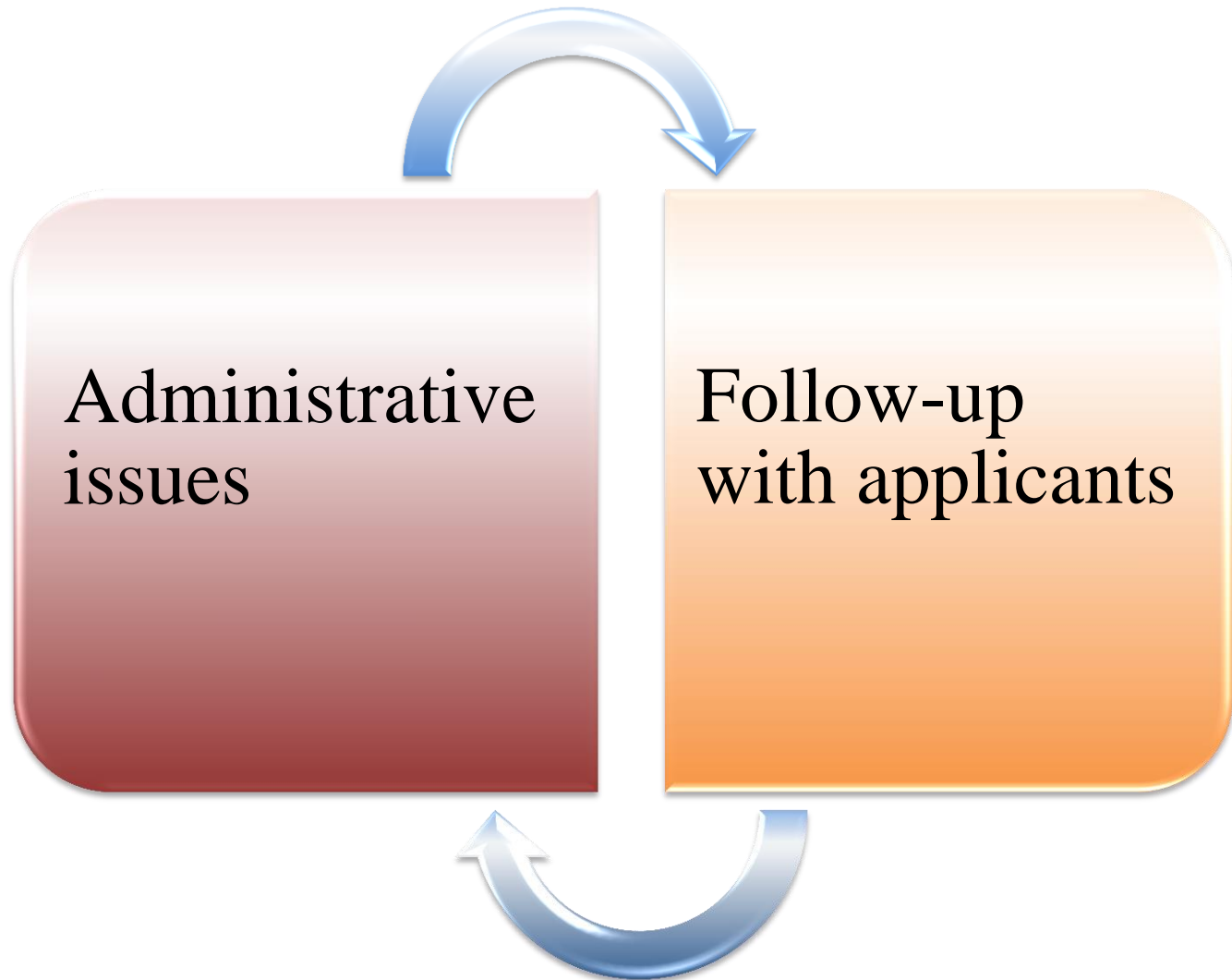
**Dla
(1)**

MA (42)

Bsc (31)

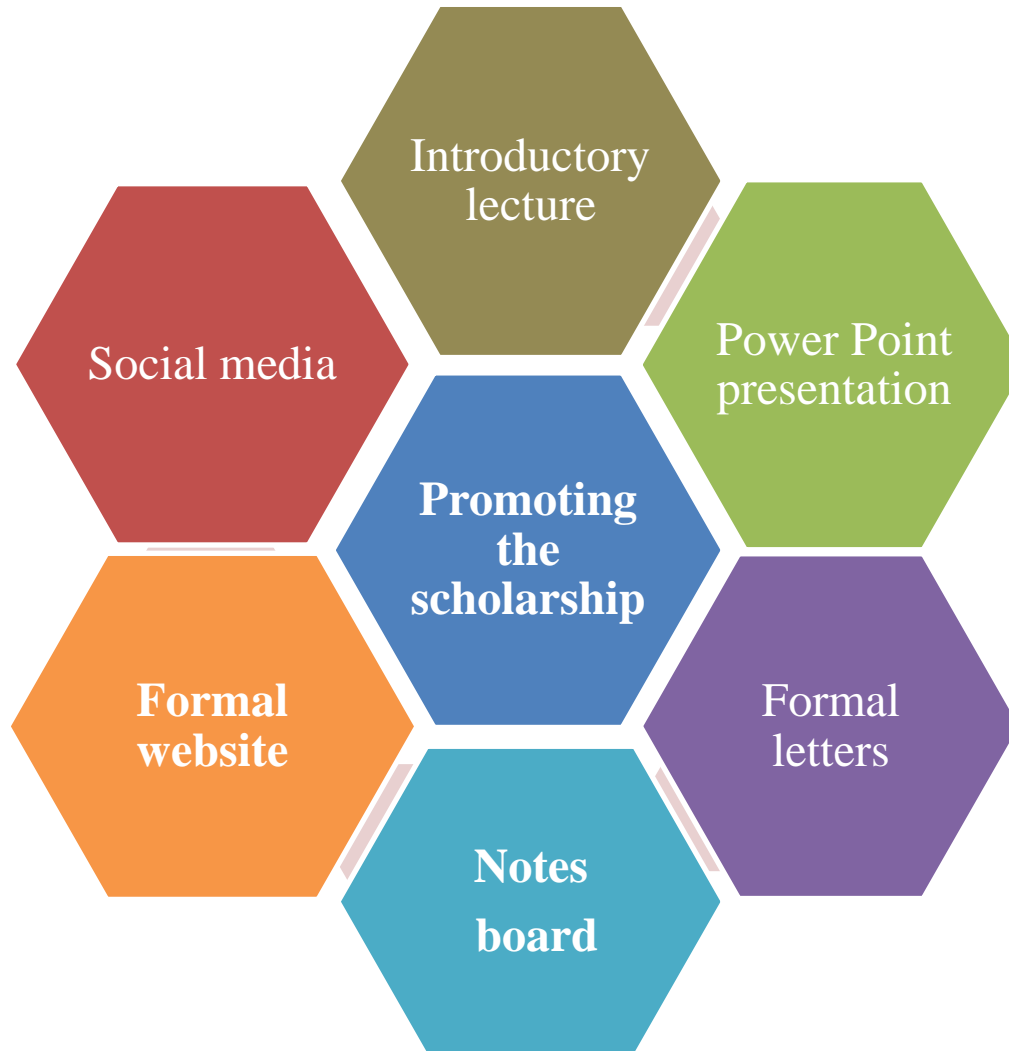
Otm (28)

During application phase



During application phase

Administrative issues

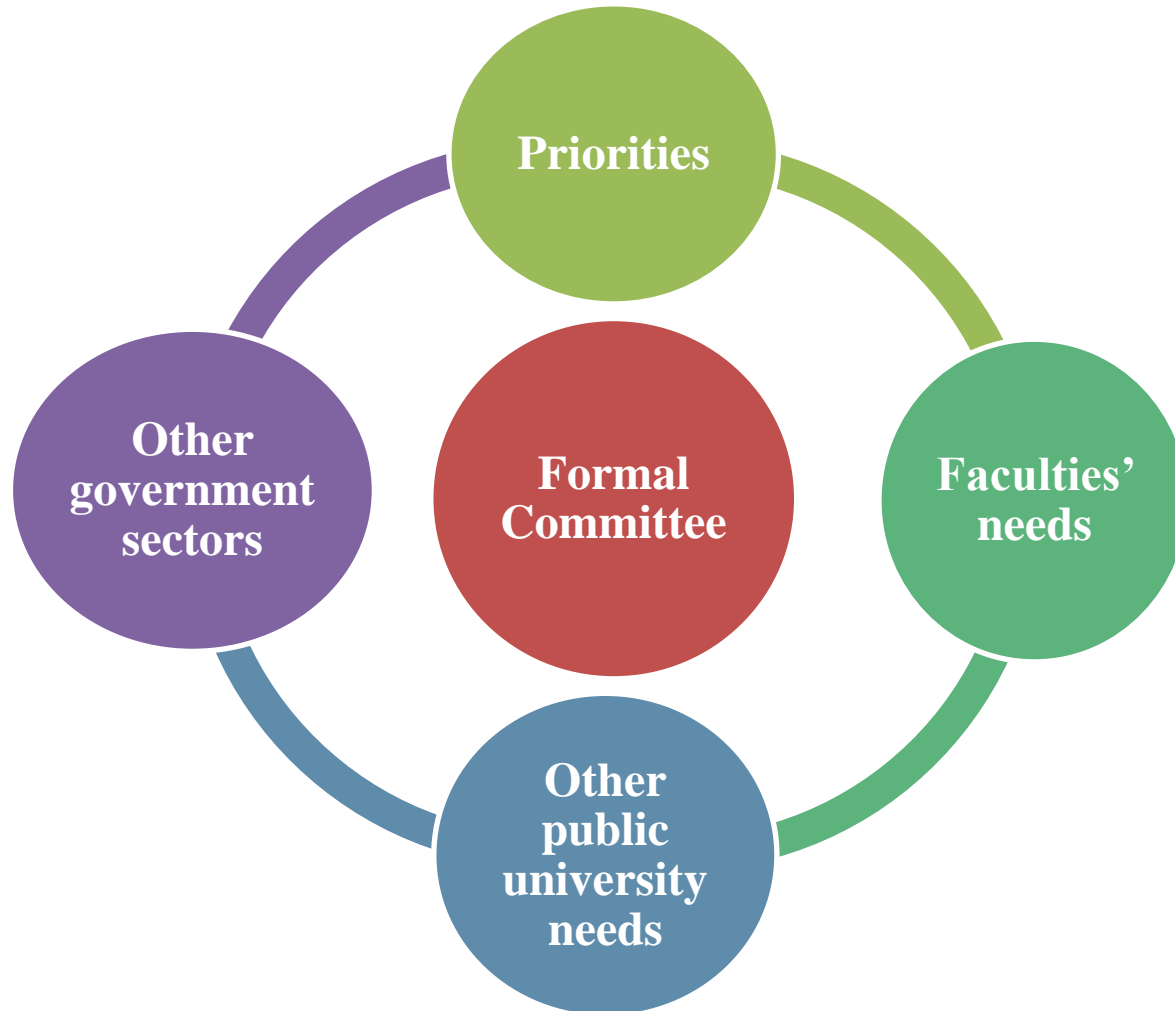


Promoting the scholarship

- Introductory lecture contributed to the dissemination of scholarship and focused on its importance.
- PPT explained mechanism of applying.
- Website and social media provided a network of communication among applicants, hence; sharing experiences.

During application phase

Administrative issues



Formal committee

- The committee is responsible for setting- up rules and conditions for nomination action.



During application phase

Follow up with applicants

by



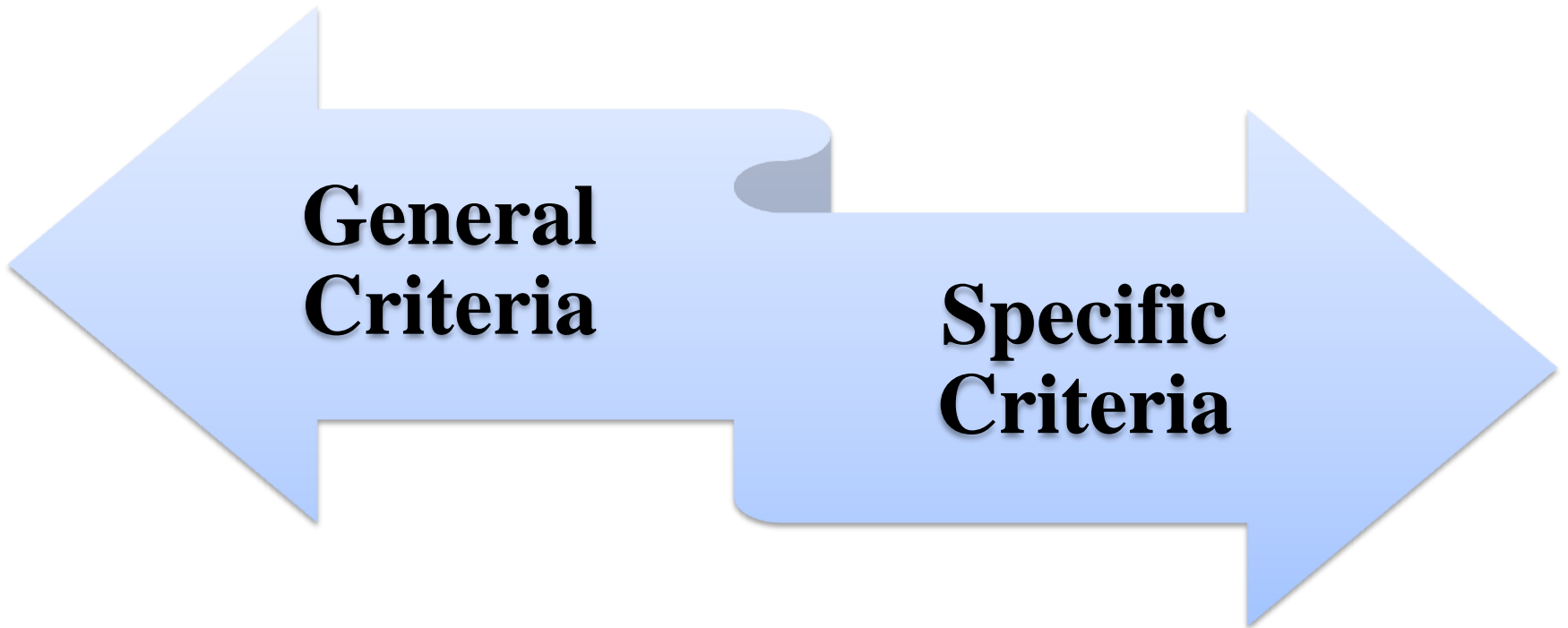
During application phase follow up with applicants

- Promptly addressing series of questions by students:
 - 30 to 60 emails daily
 - Over 30 phone calls daily
 - Over 20 visitors per day
- Clarifying issues on social media.



Managing nominations

Selection criteria



General criteria

- Rely on national education policies, providing guidance of hierarchy for nominations.
- Address country needs in specific specializations for reconstruction of the country.
- Ensure equal opportunities for all those who qualify for this scholarship in the selection process.

Specific Criteria

- Priority to:
 - Teaching staff in public universities.
 - Teaching staff in private universities.
 - Candidates nominated by government agencies.
- Focus on postgraduate students applying for Ph.D. followed by Master degree.
- Priority for students living in Syria.
- Approximately 10% of nominees are undergraduate students.



Managing nomination process

- Reviewing the submitted applications of students, particularly in relation to grades, years of experience, and motivation letters
- Classifying applications by subjects
- Classifying applications by degree
- Classifying applications by home address of students
- **Managing interference for specific nominations**



Challenges

- Selecting qualified candidates from a large pool of candidates
- Inability to access database and download records of students due to technical problems and sometimes the slow internet.
- Matching the needs of the students to the needs of the country during reconstruction.
- Addressing the large number of inquiries by students in a timely manner.
- Addressing inquiries on Facebook.
- Coordinating conflicting messages between Tempus and the University and communications received by students.
- And finally, and regardless of how hard we work, we still have to manage and address personal attacks on our integrity regarding selection process in the social media platforms.

Thank
you

